

# Wildlife Advisory Committee

School and Institutional Trust  
Lands Administration

675 East 500 South  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84102

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## Minutes of February 25, 2014

### Committee:

**Lavonne Garrison** (Non-voting)

**Tom Bachtell**

**Jim Lekas**

**Casey Snider**

**Byron Bateman**

**Tim Donaldson**

**Ashley Green**

**Miles Hanberg**

Cody Stewart (Excused)

### Others in Attendance:

Bill Christensen, Rocky Mtn Elk Foundation

Aaron Garrett, State Office of Education

Karen Rupp, State Office of Education

David Applegate, Anadarko Petroleum

Scott Bugosh, Anadarko Petroleum

John Moran, Anadarko Petroleum

Susan White, Division of Oil, Gas, & Mining

Kim Christy, SITLA

Jim Davis, SITLA

Ron Carlson, SITLA

Nannette Johnson, SITLA

### Review for Approval of Minutes

LaVonne Garrison welcomed those in attendance and excused Cody Stewart who was unable to attend. Minutes of the January 22 meeting were distributed and committee member requests for corrections were completed prior to the meeting.

“I move we approve the minutes with changes provided by the committee.”

Bachtell/Bateman      Unanimous

#### Roll Call:

Tom Bachtell – yes      Jim Lekas – yes      Byron Bateman – yes      Casey Snider – yes

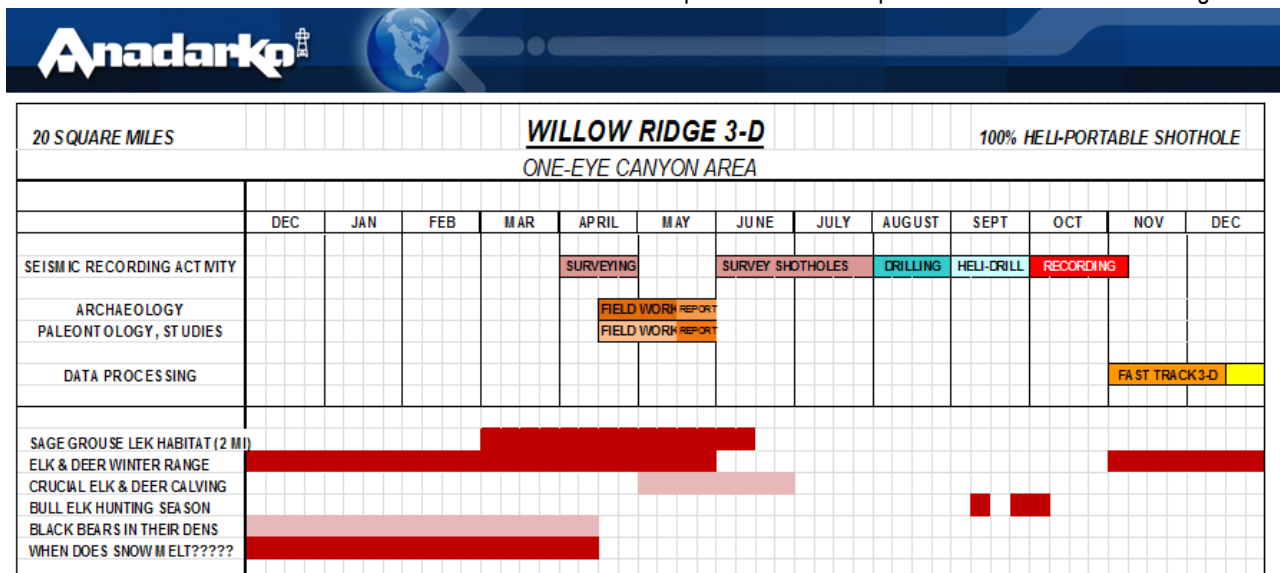
Miles Hanberg – yes      Ashley Green – yes      Tim Donaldson – yes

### Presentation by Anadarko

John Moran provided an overview of the Seismic Acquisition Program for Grand and Uintah Counties using a PowerPoint presentation. The full presentation is available on the Public Notice Website at [<http://www.utah.gov/pmn/index.html>].

- Three Year Work Plan
  - Starting in One-Eye Canyon area
    - 2014 – Test Drilling & Production [in Three Pines, not One-eye]
    - 2015 – 3-D Seismic, Drilling
    - 2016 – Additional 3-D and Drilling
- 2015 Seismic Acquisition
  - Cyclops 3-D
  - EXISTING SEISMIC
    - Recorded 2000 - 2008. APC will incorporate new technology in both Acquisition and Data Processing.
    - Higher Fold and Longer Offsets will improve resolution of geophysical targets.

- 2015 Work Plan
  - **One-Eye Canyon** area. Seismic 3-D will be called **Cyclops 3-D** (20 squares).
  - APC Work Program calls for 112 square miles 3-D over 3 years.
- CYCLOPS 3-D Topographic Map
  - Lighter Areas show Mesa area where vehicle access supports Buggy Drilling.
  - Such access is needed to ensure completion in one full season.
- CYCLOPS 3-D Satellite Photo
  - 1,350 shot holes and 2,344 receivers
  - Receiver Stations spaced 220 ft. on 1,100 ft. lines / Shot holes spaced 220 ft. on 1,760 ft. lines
- Timing
  - Phases of Seismic Operation (survey, drilling and recording)
  - Benefits of Recording Seismic in 2015
    - 3-D will be focused on 2016 drilling targets.
    - This timing permits “Early Engagement” allowing time for pre-plan meetings, studies, permits.
    - APC anxious to demonstrate expertise in an atmosphere of trust and understanding.



- Challenges for Recording Seismic in 2015
  - Steep Terrain: Selection of high quality seismic contractor to carry out this 3-D will be vital.
  - High elevations mean start of field studies must wait until after snow melt.
  - Remoteness of location means either a seismic camp or long-distance bus transportation
- Sensitive Areas
  - Wildlife, Hunting, Raptors, Road Access, etc...
- Studies and Reports -- Advanced Recording Techniques
  - Issues and Answers to Recording Seismic in 2015
    - Steep terrain, few roads make access difficult by vehicle.  
Heli-portable Low-Impact
    - New cable-less technology reduces recording equipment needs by 2/3's.
    - “Lighter, Faster, Better” translates into significant impact mitigation.
    - Traditional Cable Systems are cumbersome and dangerous.
    - No longer necessary to connect receivers together.
    - Cable Recording was subject to devastating lightning strikes. No more.

- Conclusions
  - 3-D Seismic increases chance of drilling success.
  - Area's natural sensitivities must be protected.
  - Anadarko has the experience to project manage.

### **Questions and Further Discussion**

LaVonne Garrison asked if the timeline illustration begins in December 2014. Mr. Moran confirmed the illustration is for a plan is for drilling to begin in 2015.

Miles Hanberg asked how long the charges could be in the ground before shooting the seismic. John Moran explained an average ranges from a minimum of six months and up to two years. The drier the climate the better. Water tends to break down the explosives - - by design. The charge is created from biodegradable product meant to become inert after being exposed to water over a given amount of time.

Byron Bateman identified a problem with an August / September plan due to hunting that will occur in the area at that time. He asked if there was a way the schedule could be moved to begin in July and be finished drilling by the third week of August. Mr. Moran described how crews work around hunting season in other states using blocks of time.

John Moran also pointed out there will be crews on site and they need to get in to do the work and then get out. It will cost Anadarko a substantial amount of money to have a crew sitting in a cabin waiting for the hunting weekend to end. If there is a way to identify areas likely to be hunted most, or other accommodation, Anadarko can consider blocks of time in those areas.

Casey Snider asked if those familiar with the area could provide help to identify best locations for buggy access and areas best accessed by helicopter. Anadarko is not asking anyone to do anything, but would like to hear comments to avoid surprises. A seismic company will be hired to determine the best means of accessing the area. There is no participation necessary but comments and concerns will be appreciated.

LaVonne Garrison outlined that the point of the committee is to come up with questions and voice concerns. She asked that the committee members bring the questions to the next meeting so that everyone understands other's concerns along with their own.

Jim Lekas discussed the point of the Board establishing the committee was to allow an opportunity for the programs to be presented by Anadarko. Concerns should be presented to the committee then brought to Anadarko's attention. SITLA does not expect everyone to be picking up the phone to call Anadarko to express those concerns as each concern is realized. Rather, concerns are to be brought to the committee and discussed. Concern can then be forwarded to Anadarko from the committee.

LaVonne encouraged committee members to submit questions in advance to provide time for a response and agenda item suggestions can be submitted to Nannette Johnson.

Tom Bachtell asked if the 3D program design would allow Anadarko to see formations deeper than the Mancos. Anadarko is interested in the data from top to bottom. They will get pictures as deep as possible for targets to access using horizontal drilling.

LaVonne asked how long from the time the seismic is conducted until the data is processed and drilling sites are selected. Mr. Moran described a standard process saying, within 30 days from

the last shot, the interpreters will receive the results at their workstation. It may take six months to process all the information.

Ms. Garrison projected the first well will begin in mid-2016. Scott Bugosh from Anadarko confirmed the estimated timeline.

Ms. Garrison asked how big the well site would be. Mr. Bugosh indicated a 6-7 acre area in the beginning reduced to approximately one acre when the well is operational. He continued with a description of the process for establishing the well. Anadarko is currently permitting for possible drill sites on Three Pines. LaVonne Garrison mentioned the permitting process for the project would be done through DOGM and SITLA; there is no federal land involved.

Kim Christy identified an area on the map as part of the Recreation Exchange, which is currently in a 45-day comment period and has an anticipated end date of April 5. Ms. Garrison will keep Anadarko informed of the exchange comment period. Mr. Christy also mentioned the Book Cliffs area is the result of multiple exchanges with BLM to create the block of land.

Jim Lekas discussed the fact that close to 99% of this project is taking place in Grand County.

Casey Snider asked if the information in the PowerPoint presentation would be available to the committee members. LaVonne reported the information would be posted on the Utah Public Notice Website [<http://www.utah.gov/pmn/index.html>].

Susan White from the Division of Oil, Gas & Mining asked about drainage and the maximum elevation of the work. Anadarko responded to say the work would be done as high as 7,000 to 8,000 feet.

Kim Christy asked if the Sage Grouse plan would impact the area. LaVonne mentioned the habitat and protected areas in the Sage Grouse plan do not currently overlap with the lease area. Miles Hanberg discussed the migration in the area but did not define any specific numbers. He confirmed the area as an historic range but the species numbers have dwindled over time.

Mr. Hanberg asked if the Anadarko budget cycle ran on a calendar year wondering when funding would be considered again. Anadarko confirmed a calendar year and a self-funded budget that may be modified by findings from early exploration this summer. There is a possibility for funding to proceed this fall.

Ms. Garrison asked about reclamation. Anadarko explained the crews carry with them the tools to complete both the drill and backfill. They also plant grass seed selected for the area.

Karen Rupp asked how hunters are alerted to the activity in the area to avoid accidents. Anadarko will post announcements in local papers with maps, and in sporting goods stores. Ms. Rupp asked if DNR notifies hunters during the permit process. Mr. Hanberg indicated that in the past the information would be included in the guidebook. For this situation, they can post signs. Jim Lekas pointed out there are only two main locations where hunters and recreationist gain access to the area. Signs can be posted in the parking areas at those locations. Mr. Bateman mentioned hunters would scout the area prior to the hunt allowing another opportunity for hunters to become aware of activity prior to the hunt.

Tom Bachtell asked how many permits would be issued for the area. Mr. Hanberg thought about 75-80 tags will be issued to archery hunters overall and he estimated 40 hunters may be in the Little Creek unit.

Susan White asked about the frequency of helicopter activity during the hunt. Anadarko indicated there will be a two-week time when the helicopter activity will be greater based on the workflow pattern. Once the holes are drilled and the charges are placed, the seismic testing will be virtually unnoticed. After the testing, the collection of the receivers will require people on the ground with access provided by helicopter.

Ron Carlson asked about the revenue generated from tags issued for hunting in a single year. Mr. Hanberg and Mr. Green can provide the detailed information if contacted at their offices.

Casey Snider requested a trip with Anadarko and committee members sometime this summer when the weather improves to have an opportunity to see the location in person.

LaVonne Garrison asked that if there is consideration by Anadarko to shoot seismic this fall, to notify her as soon as possible to coordinate a meeting of the committee.

Miles Hanberg asked for a point of clarification for mutual understanding that recommendations should be brought to the committee for discussion. Ms. Garrison confirmed the understanding and asked that recommendations along with questions be submitted for addition to the agenda.

“I move for the committee meeting to adjourn.”

Bachtell/Snider                      Unanimous

Roll Call:

Tom Bachtell – yes	Jim Lekas – yes	Byron Bateman– yes	Casey Snider – yes
Miles Hanberg – yes	Ashley Green – yes	Tim Donaldson – yes	

**Next Meeting:** To be determined at a later date.

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